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1962/11/28

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In reply refer to: I-20798/62

28 NOV 1962

Dear Fred,

Many thanks for your quick response to my request for estimation of the threat posed by Soviet ICBMs if stationed in Cuba. He had assumed that they were inherently more accurate, and so it is good to know in some precise terms what this meant.

As you anticipated, the stationing of ICBM's in Cuba was too tempting to the Soviets. In mid-September Albert asked me if I were sure the Soviets weren't putting ICBM's into Cuba. He had a hunch they might. My answer was sort of a non-sequitur. They'd be crazy to do it. We were both right.

These missiles added to the Soviet ICBM capability might have reduced by 30% the vehicles, and by 40% the weapons that the US could deliver against the Soviet Union. This assumes that SAC has dispersed.

Again, we appreciate yours and Mike Arnesten's efforts to take a quick fix on the problem and send in the data.

Sincerely,

Henry S. Rowen
Deputy Assistant Secretary

Mr. J. S. Hoffman
Band Corporation
1720 Main Street
Santa Monica, California

Prep by Mr. Gaffney/Pol Ping/mcm/28 Nov 62
4E843/79675

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The Cuban Missile Crisis Revisited UMI 2005

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The Cuban Missile Crisis Revisited: An International Collection of Documents, from the Bay of Pigs to the Brink of Nuclear War

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The Cuban Missile Crisis Revisited: An International Collection of Documents, from the Bay of Pigs to the Brink of Nuclear War reproduces a comprehensive collection of records from the archives of the three key governments involved in the most dangerous confrontation of the Cold war. Declassified records from the United States, Russia and Cuba significantly advance analysis of the historical foundations of the missile crisis, the policy calculations and considerations of President John F. Kennedy and premiers Nikita Khrushchev and Fidel Castro, and the overt and covert military and paramilitary operations that combined to bring the world to the threshold of a nuclear exchange. Topics extensively covered in the documentation include the failed U.S.-led invasion at the Bay of Pigs, renewed attempts to overthrow Castro through Operation Mongoose and Operation Northwoods, U.S. military contingency planning for conflict with Cuba, naval warfare, Soviet and Cuban decision making and communications during the crisis, and the repercussions for U.S.-Soviet relations, and Soviet-Cuban relations in its aftermath. Materials were identified, obtained, assembled and indexed by the National Security Archive, a non-profit Washington D.C. based research institute and library. The microfiche collection is accompanied by a printed guide and index.

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